

One page summary of first regional PROVIDE workshops

Estonia, Harju County on March 3rd, 2016

- Number of participants: 14 + 3, represented sectors:
 - a) **Government** – 3 participants (Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Environment)
 - b) **Local government** – 4 participants (Protected Landscape Area Lahemaa; Harju county and local government representatives)
 - c) **NGOs** – 2 participants (Harju county development center; Stockholm Environment Institute in Tallinn)
 - d) **Researchers** – 3 participant (Tallinn University environmental research, Estonian Life Sciences)
 - e) **Enterprises** – 2 participants (agriculture and recreation (with agriculture))
 - f) **Organisers** – 3 participants



- Summary of the public goods/bad examples that people came up with:
 - a) The agricultural activities in Harju county region have decreased a lot in last 20 years (the decrease started even earlier). Therefore a lot of agricultural land is out of use and covered with the brushwood. It is on the one had bad for agricultural scenery, the risk of fire is higher; but it is on the other side good for biological diversity.
 - b) Another thing is that lot of previous agricultural land has become the industrial or residential areas. This has also an impact on scenery and also decreases the biodiversity in the region.
 - c) On the other side the decrease in agricultural activities together with more strict environmental requirements for enterprises in agricultural sectors – the impact on water

quality is smaller from agriculture.

- d) Harju county has a lot of seashore area which are quite actively used by recreation and tourism purposes. This has high pressure for seashore forests and their natural communities. The same applies to small islands along the norther-coast.
 - e) There are a lot of hiking routes and recreation areas in the forests. These are quite actively used. Forest management, especially clear-cutting has strong impact on these areas. Also to the people's possibilities to pick berries and mushrooms, which is very common in Harju county.
 - f) The hunting is also becoming more active in the forests. There is going on a lot of animal movement on their way to north and back.
- Main points regarding trends of public goods/bads
 - a) The delivery of recreation and nature tourism is growing that means more pressure to sea-shore forests and small islands and their nature communities.
 - b) Pressure for clear-cut is increasing the conflict of scenery and recreation possibilities next to the residential areas.
 - c) Local food supply is hoped to become more available (better organised), but there is no trend in increase of local producers.
 - d) The unused agricultural land is stable. There are state measures to mow these fields. But there is still a trend of making these lands to residential areas.
 - The most important public goods/bads in your region
 1. Aesthetic function (appearance) of landscape (unused agricultural lands and clear-cut forest areas) – the loss of some cultural scenery and cultural heritage
 2. Recreation (fresh air) – especially the sea-shore forests and also green belts around the city areas
 3. Hunting, gathering berries and mushrooms from forests
 4. Local food supply

- Main points from mapping

We formed two groups: one group mapped the public goods/bads in the field of agriculture and another group of forest management. As the area of Harju county is not so large, we didn't follow the density scales in marking the public good/bad pots.



- a) The hotspots in both groups were mainly related to the problems or conflicts in providing the abovementioned public goods. (problem areas)
- b) The other spots showed where the delivery of public goods is well done and has no (or very few) conflict issues. (good examples)



- Any other interesting things that came up during the workshop
- The participants were more aware of the topic of public goods and related problems than we expected